AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following "Listing of Claims" replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented). A method for measuring a concentration of a material in a solution, the method comprising the steps of:

i measuring an optical rotation of a solution sample;

ii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;

iii measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and

iv calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

2. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the material is measured in a sugar solution.

3. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the material is optically active.

4. (previously presented). The method according to claim 3, wherein the material is dextran or raffinose.

5. (previously presented). The method according to claim 4, wherein the material is dextran and the reactive agent is dextranase.

6. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of treating the sample with a second reactive agent.

7. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is provided in a context of a solid support.

8. (previously presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is purified with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns prior to polarimetric analysis.

9 (currently amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is dextranase or α-galactosidase in the context of a solid support. ~~Dextranase or α-galactosidase that is attached to a solid support and is suitable for use as the reactive agent in the method of claim 1.~~

10. (currently amended). A kit for the assay of the concentration of a material in solution according to claim 1, the kit comprising at least an agent reactive with the optically active material and software for use with a polarimeter to automate the change in optical rotation of a standard with concentration of the material of interest. ~~A kit for determining a concentration of a material in a solution according to the method of claim 1, the kit comprising an agent reactive with the material~~.

11. (previously presented). A method for a polarimetric analysis of a solution sample at near IR wavelengths, the method comprising the steps of:

i treating the solution sample with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns;

ii measuring an optical rotation of the solution sample;

iii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;

iv measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and

v calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

12. (previously presented). The method according to claim 11, wherein the diatomaceous earth is Filter Cel E grade Celite or a functional equivalent.

13. (currently amended). The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α-galactosidase .

14. (currently amended). The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.